

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 DOTE-00 INT-05 CU-04 OES-05 EPA-04 FAA-00

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SUBJECT: ECE - INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, GENEVA, FEB 3-7, 1976

1. ECE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE (ITC) OPENED THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION WITH ADOPTION OF AGENDA (ECE/TRANS/15) AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS. G. BILLET (FRANCE) REELECTED CHAIRMAN AND N. SHINKAREV (USSR) ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN.

2. OPENING SESSION ADDRESSED BY ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK WHO, AS IN MEETINGS OF OTHER COMMITTEES DURING RECENT MONTHS, NOTED STRUCTURAL NATURE OF CURRENT ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. HE TRACED DYNAMIC GROWTH OF TRANSPORTATION DURING PAST QUARTER CENTURY AND ITS EFFECT ON QUALITY OF LIFE AND SAW SLOWER GROWTH DURING NEXT QUARTER CENTURY DUE IN LARGE PART TO CONCERN FOR QUALITY OF LIFE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT).

3. REFERRING TO CSCE FINAL ACT, STANOVNIK SAW PARTICULAR CONTRIBUTION BY TRANSPORT TO MAKING DETENTE A LAST-

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LAR CONTRIBUTION BY TRANSPORT TO MAKING DETENTE A LAST-

ING PHENOMENON. HE DESCRIBED FINAL ACT AS GIVING APPROVAL TO ORIENTATION OF ITC AND SUPPORT FOR WORK PROGRAM. THEREFORE HIS PROPOSALS FOR ADOPTION OF WORK PROGRAM, CONTAINED IN E/ECE/900 PREPARED FOR ECE 31ST SESSION, CONSISTED ONLY OF MARGINAL CHANGES WHICH HE HOPED WOULD STREAMLINE COMMITTEE'S WORK (WINTER PRUNING FOR MORE SUMMER FRUIT).

4. STANOVNIK OUTLINED SIX WORK AREAS PROPOSED FOR ITC IN ANNEX I TO E/ECE/900: (1) MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVES; (2) TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS; (3) FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT; (4) TRANSPORT SAFETY; (5) ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE-SAVING ASPECTS; AND (6) STATISTICS AND INFORMATION. WITH REGARD TO FIRST CATEGORY, STANOVNIK REPEATED CALL MADE TO OTHER COMMITTEES FOR MORE FORWARD LOOKING PROJECTS AND CO-OPERATION WITH SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS IN OVERALL ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE OF ECE REGION UP TO 1990. UNDER SECOND CATEGORY, HE NOTED THAT CSCE FINAL ACT CALLS FOR STUDY OF LARGE SCALE PROJECTS OF COMMON INTEREST IN ROAD AND WATER TRANSPORT SECTORS. UNDER THIRD AND FOURTH CATEGORIES, HE NOTED PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ITC IN TRANSPORT FACILITATION, INCLUDING RECENT CONCLUSION OF REVISED TIR CONVENTION, AND ITC CONTRIBUTION TO HOLDING DOWN TRANSPORT CASUALTY RATE. FINALLY, HE SAW ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE-SAVING ASPECTS AS MORE COMPLICATED THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT AND REQUIRING INTENSIVE WORK. ALL DEPENDED, HE REMINDED THE COMMITTEE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES. SINCE THE ACABQ AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAD SEEN NO NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL, THE COMMITTEE ITSELF WOULD HAVE TO ASSIST.

5. RESPONDING TO STANOVNIK, THE UK SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS SUGGESTED THAT SINCE DOCUMENT E/ECE/900 WAS NOT FORMALLY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, AN AD HOC MEETING BE HELD IN 1976 AFTER THE 31ST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION IN ORDER TO CONSIDER REVISION OF THE WORK PROGRAM. CHAIRMAN BILLET NOTED THAT MAJORITY SEEMED TO FAVOR IDEAL OF AD HOC MEETING, WHICH WOULD BE CONSIDERED UNDER CALENDAR OF WORK.

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6. IN RESPONSE TO UK REMARK RE NEED FOR INTERMODAL APPROACH TO TRANSPORT PROBLEMS, STANOVNIK AGREED AND NOTED THAT IN RECENT MEETING WITH ECA, ECWA, AND ESCAP EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES, THEY HAD SUGGESTED APPLYING ECE TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS TO THEIR REGIONS. HE ALSO AGREED TO AADVISABILITY OF AD HOC MEETING, BUDGET PERMITTING.

7. USSR, NOTING STANOVNIK REFERENCE TO BRESHNEV'S
WARSAW SPEECH, CAUTIONED THAT STANOVNIK SHOULD NOT
READ TOO MUCH OF A ROLE FOR ECE INTO BRESHNEV'S SUGGES-
TIONS RE CONFERENCES ON TRANSPORT, ENVIRONMENT AND
ENERGY. STANOVNIK RESPONDED THAT HE WAS AWARE THAT
BRESHNEV DID NOT SUGGEST THAT SUCH CONFERENCES BE HELD
WITHIN ECE, BUT ONLY WISHED TO SUGGEST THAT MACHINERY
ALREADY EXISTED IF GOVERNMENTS WISHED TO USE IT.DALE

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